

THE LGBTQ VOICE SINCE 1978

APRIL 2014
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THE
OUTDOOR
ISSUE

#DAYOFSILENCE
4.11.14

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DO TO END THE SILENCE?

PLUS
KRISTINE W. GETS A
LITTLE CLOSER
@ REVO SUNDAYS

**OLIVIA
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Summer Nights Residency
at The Flamingo

APRIL 26
HARD ROCK HOTEL



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Photo: Michele About

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THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Spring in Las Vegas makes me want to fall in love...with allergies, the rain, the wind, the heat, the cold, traffic jams on the I-15, J-walkers and activist Downtown, hiking in the wetlands and visiting our other hidden gems.

This month marks the 10th anniversary since this magazine was renamed *QVegas* (from *The Las Vegas Bugle*) in 2004. As a community built on inclusion we are now using LGBTQ as our official initialism.

Last month the national Human Rights Campaign (HRC) celebrated its Volunteers, Board Members and Steering Committee leaders at the annual national summit. Volunteers, HRC's most valuable asset not only contribute to the betterment of the community

Janise "Noah" Henderson

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I WANT TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS

Do you have something on your mind?

Do you have something to say about an article in *QVegas* or any topic of interest to our readers?

Do you have an idea for a future story?

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Amare Photography by Jasmine Thompson

but also experience life changing opportunities. Local Steering Committee Volunteer Engagement Co-Chair Cristina Di Giola shares the inside scoop on what it's like to Volunteer with HRC Las Vegas and she encourages you to join today!

April 6, 2013 The Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada (The Center) opened the doors to the new Robert L. Forbuss Building. The day was proclaimed by the city of Las Vegas as "The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada Day". This month The Center celebrates its first full year in their new home along with 20 years of service to the Southern Nevada community.

Don't forget to 'Like Us' on Facebook (facebook.com/qvegasmagazine) and 'Follow Us' on Twitter (@QVegas) to be the first to know about new events and happenings. By joining the #QCrew social network you can also get a chance to win some exciting giveaways throughout the year!



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BREAKING THE SILENCE

The Day of Silence is a student-led national event that brings attention to anti-LGBTQ name-calling, bullying and harassment in schools.

[by AJ O'Reilly]

Students across the nation will demonstrate the silencing effect of bullying and harassment on LGBTQ students and those perceived to be LGBTQ by taking a vow of silence.

The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), is the leading national education organization addressing the serious problems of LGBTQ name-calling, bullying and harassment that affect ALL students. GLSEN's Southern Nevada chapter has worked with students, teachers and administrators in the Clark County School District to develop policies and train educators

in creating safe, respectful educational environments for all students, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/ expression.

In past years, more than 500,000 students at nearly 4,000 K-12 schools, colleges and universities organized Day of Silence events. These numbers make the Day of Silence one of the largest student-led actions in the United States. The event has drawn significant attention to LGBTQ issues in schools.

Last year in Clark County, GLSEN Southern Nevada hosted the largest Day of Silence event in



the Nation with participation of over 30 schools, The Center, The University of Nevada Las Vegas, and numerous community organizations.

Breaking The Silence, a rally to celebrate support of our community will be held April 11, at 6PM at The Center, located at 401 Maryland Pkwy. All members in the community are invited out to break the silence of bullying and anti-LGBT youth harassment with a loud, festive, music filled event. Break the Silence and stand up to hate and discrimination. ■



Top Student Responses To Why The Day Of Silence Is Important

GLSEN
DAY of SILENCE
APRIL 11, 2014

Sabbi

The annual Day of Silence is important because it's a silent protest against bullying. For all those who've felt alone and silenced from bullying and isolated without a voice to stand up for what is right. To me it's kind of like what Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi (Mahatma Gandhi) did and protested for what he believed in without using violence. Here's our way of protesting for what we believe with silence and without violence. Everyone deserves equality no matter what sexual orientation they are.

Taylor

It means that for a whole day I get to stay silent in honor of those who have been silenced by mean or hateful words

Sarah

To me, the day of silence is a day where everyone participating can come together to actually try to

make a difference. It's a day where everyone around those participating can learn that there is an issue, and that it's better to be silent than to insult somebody, but nobody should ever be forced to be silent for being themselves.

Sky

it's a day to promote awareness for bullying of LGBTQ+ kids in schools. It brings attention to those who aren't allowed to speak up for themselves, and in us being silent for a day we experience what they do every day of their lives.

Mikayla

It means to be quiet for those who have been hurt by others words. I do it every year

Tie-Tie

It means showing support for our friends, our classmates, and other people so that they know they are not alone.

Ashley

The Day of Silence is about love. Love for your friends, and love for people who may not like you. Fighting is not going to change someone's heart. But showing love and tolerance, while supporting other kids will let them know that we stand with them.

Markus

I know that not hearing anyone's voices and seeing all of the support is awesome. Our school's teachers are amazing, and they really want everyone to feel loved and accepted. I love our school and the support they show all of the students regardless of their sexual orientation or what gender they say they are.

Fraiah

It takes a lot of self-control to not talk, but it really it's about showing others that there is a community of people who support them. We stand as one agents bullying.



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2 STEPS FORWARD...

[by CJ Sturgis]

LA PRIDE Makes a Transgender First

LA PRIDE's Transgender Coalition boldly places the T at the beginning of the acronym, LGBTQ. This is an effort to initiate and inspire conversations about the lives, triumphs, struggles and challenges of trans people. This idea to focus on trans issues is directed at educating the gay, bisexual and lesbian community alike.



A Rainbow-Themed "Diversity Float" Made It Into Boston's St. Patrick's Day Parade

A group of gay men and women infiltrated Boston's St. Patrick's Day parade with a float covered with rainbow flags. Originally the float was registered as a "diversity float that would welcome all people to march, coincidently most of them were gay men. As the float joined the procession, marchers hoisted the rainbow flags and began throwing rainbow-colored beads to the crowd.



Honey Maid Graham Crackers Celebrates 'Wholesome' Gay and Interracial Families in Ad

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DIVIDED:

RuPaul Epithet OR GLAAD Perjorative

It's not the first time the show has used the term "shemale." In the game the Drag Race contestants used the term in a comedic way which didn't sit too well with GLAAD officials. Writing that the word, along with words like "tranny," "shim," and "gender-bender" — "only serves to dehumanize transgender people and should not be used."

1 STEP BACK



An Italian teen boy was given up by his adopted Italian family

The young teen was abandoned by his biological parents as a baby. Described as 'sweet, shy and insecure', other children bullied him because of his sexuality. But instead of providing support, his unsympathetic foster parents disowned him and took him back to the adoption home. 'It created too many problems - we can't handle it,' the parents were quoted. Everyone says to us why do you bother?'



Wendy Williams Makes Transphobic Comment During Panel Discussion

While discussing the current situation of trans cross fit athlete, Chloe Jonsson, Wendy Williams made a few inappropriate comments about the trans community. "You can take away female or male parts or whatever — it's like Chaz Bono! You know, Chaz is a man now, but I bet she still fights like a girl like the rest of us." The long term LGBTQ ally & GLAAD supporter made a public apology via twitter, and promises to better educate herself.

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VOLUNTEERING WITH HRC LAS VEGAS

[by Cristina Di Gioia]
Las Vegas Volunteer Engagement Co-Chair

Some know that it is the mission of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) to fight for LGBTQ equality, and that the local Las Vegas Steering Committee works relentlessly toward this goal. However, you may not know that HRC Las Vegas has a robust volunteer program that stretches far beyond just involvement with HRC events.

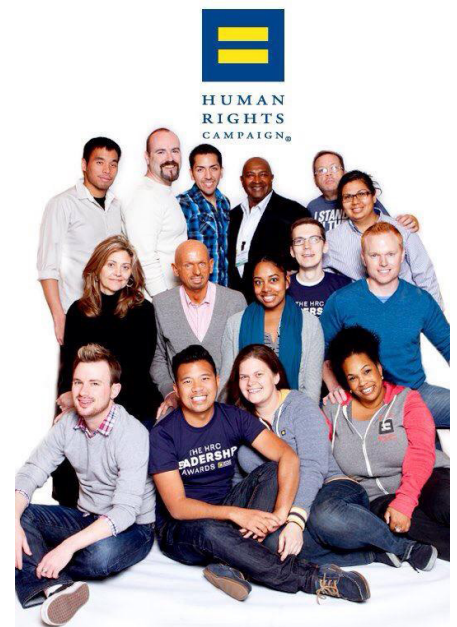
HRC Las Vegas also collaborates with and supports many other organizations in the community. A few of these organizations include The Center, Aid for AIDS of Nevada (AFAN), St. Jude Children's Hospital, Golden Rainbow, Las Vegas Rescue Mission, Ya Es Hora, Opportunity Village, Child Haven, and many more.

Every second Monday of the month, you will find us at the Las Vegas Rescue Mission, serving food to the residents, cleaning the dining area, and washing dishes for the residents' evening meal. A volunteer favorite, helping out at the mission is fun and fulfilling.

Another regular event we look forward to helping with is Ya Es Hora, during which we help people legally obtain U.S. citizenship. We have the opportunity to meet with these aspiring citizens, provide them with the proper paperwork, and help them understand and complete the application process to fulfill their dream.

During the holiday season, you can find us dressed as elves at the Magical Forest. This wonderful holiday event is Opportunity Village's largest fund-raiser of the year, funding the terrific work that they do supporting employment for people with barriers to employment, so that they may enjoy the dignity of having a job.

By striving to maintain a presence at various fairs and festivals, we work to increase the community awareness of our mission and involvement, as well as sign up new members and volunteers.



Please come visit us! You can find our booth at Las Vegas Pride (September 6th), the UNLV Festival of Communities (April 12th), the AFAN Aids Walk/HRC Community Picnic (May 4th), the NGRA gay rodeo (May 9th and 10th), and many other LGBT events.

Every second Sunday of the month at 5pm, you can find me in a meeting room at The Center, meeting with our volunteers. We discuss what we did over the last month, and then what we intend to do in the community in the upcoming month. Since we have all developed friendships, we also catch up with each other, laugh, and joke. Sometimes we even have a potluck meeting.

The volunteer experience with HRC is unlike any other. It is so

>>CONTINUED ON PAGE 48

Measurement Of Love

WE'RE ALL HUMAN

Space For Change

6° Of Separation

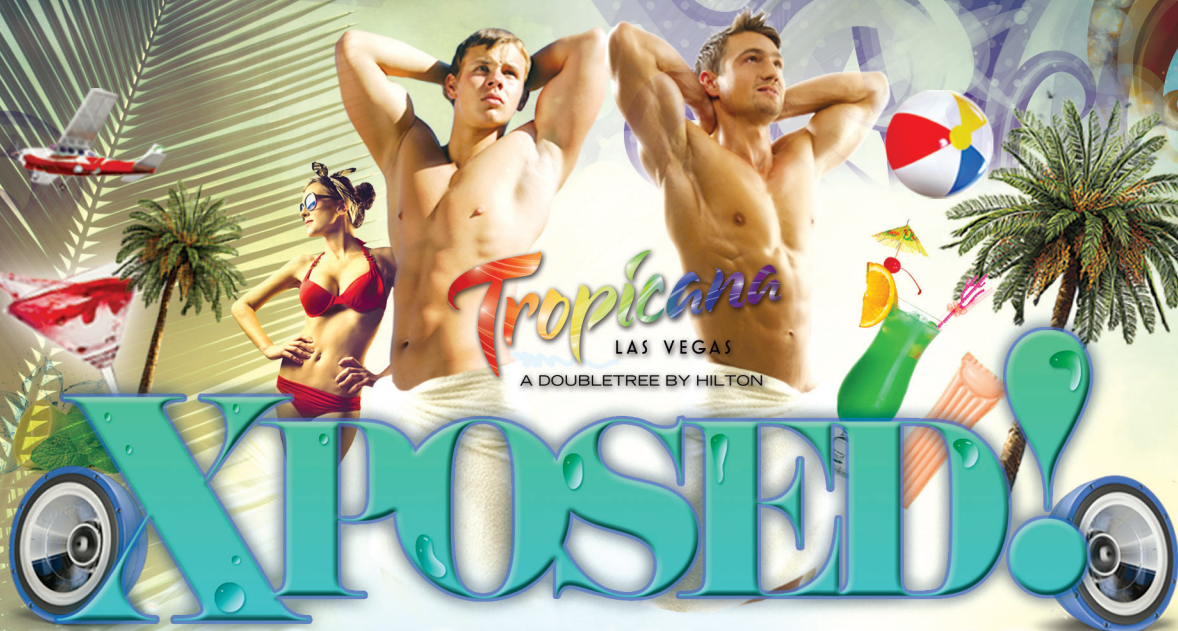
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Height Of Equality

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Tuesday
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THAT'S SO Vegas

APRIL 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Tidbits from The Strip & Beyond

SUNDAYS

- ✓ REVO Sundays at Revolution Lounge inside Mirage Hotel
- Service Industry Night at Flex Lounge
- Country Line Dance Lessons at Charlie's Las Vegas
- Charlie's Amazing Drag Review at Charlie's Las Vegas
- Ladies Night at FreeZone

MONDAYS

- ✓ Mondays Dark at Hard Rock Hotel (3rd Monday)
- Martini Mondays at Flex Lounge
- Liquor Bust at Spotlight Lounge
- Karaoke at Charlie's Las Vegas
- S.I.N. Mondays at The Garage

TUESDAYS

- ✓ Social Tuesdays
- Drag Queen Bingo at Charlie's
- Karaoke Night at FreeZone
- Trashy Tuesdays at Hawk's Gym

WEDNESDAYS

- Karaoke Wednesdays at Flex Lounge
- Skin Mens' Underwear Night at Charlie's
- Game Night at FreeZone
- Wild Wednesdays with India Ferrah at Piranha Nightclub

THURSDAYS

- ✓ PRISM (2nd Thursdays)
- ✓ HRC/QVegas 3rd Thursday
- Foreplay at Share Nightclub
- Boys Night at FreeZone
- Tat Thursdays at Entourage
- Karaoke at The Phoenix

FRIDAYS

- ✓ Pia Zadora at Piero's Italian Cusine
- Blame it on the Alcohol Fridays at Krave Las Vegas
- Dance Party at Flex Lounge
- F*ck It Fridays at Piranha Nightclub
- Drag Madness at FreeZone
- Stripper Circus at Share Nightclub

SATURDAYS

- ✓ Mirror Mirror at Hard Rock Hotel (Last Saturday)
- Ladies Q Social at Lady Sylvia's (Every 2nd Saturday)
- Goddess with India Ferrah at Piranha Nightclub
- Drag Madness at FreeZone
- CumUnion at Hawk's Gym

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The American Lung Association in Nevada invites people who smoke and want to quit to a free 7-week workshop where you can learn how to create a personalized quit plan and start enjoying the benefits of being smoke-free. The workshop consists of small group settings, with a fun and interactive learning environment. Four weeks of nicotine replacement therapy is provided at no charge for qualified participants through the Nevada Tobacco Users Helpline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW. While advanced registration is preferred, walk-in attendees are welcome. To register, please call 702-431-6348 or go online at www.lungnevada.org.

BROADWAY BARES: SOLO STRIP

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2014 11PM

Presented by Ryan Lyons, the Broadway Bares show benefits Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, which is one of the nation's leading industry-based HIV/AIDS fundraising and grant making organizations. The organization funds the social service work of The Actors Fund and award grants to AIDS service organization nationwide. The one time Las Vegas show will be held at Rose. Rabbit. Lie. inside The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, on April 7. Doors open at 11pm. For more information email ryflips@gmail.com.

SONG-POEMS WANTED! THE MUSICAL

APRIL 11-27 8PM

Song-Poems Wanted! The Musical is an original musical that explores the hopes and dreams of the poets and the musicians whose lives are connected through the fictional "Star Records" through the wacky and sometimes touching art of Song-Poems. Off-Strip Productions is proud and excited to premiere a brand new version of Song-Poems Wanted! right here in Las Vegas at the Onyx Theatre. Come support original art in our community and give us feedback on what you see. Be a part of the creative process! For specific dates and times of the performance. Visit www.onyxtheatre.com.

LORDE PERFORMS AT BOULEVARD POOL

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2014 8PM

Singer Ella Yelich-O'Connor, also known as Lorde, will be performing for the first time at The Boulevard Pool at The Cosmopolitan Las Vegas. The concert will take place on April 16, 2014. Doors open at 8PM. Tickets are going fast, and there are only a limited number of premium cabanas. You can get more information by emailing nightlifemarketing@cosmopolitanlasvegas.com or by calling 702.698.7778. All guests must be 21+ to reserve a cabana.

MIRROR MIRROR DEBUTS AT VANITY NIGHTCLUB

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2014 10PM

A nightlife fantasy land comes to life at Vanity Nightclub with the opening of Mirror Mirror. This monthly LGBTQ experience tempts guests with a completely unique nightlife excursion into the imagination.

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** Client was on a bicycle and hit by an automobile. Client suffered a broken leg and was in a wheel chair at her wedding. 40% Contingency Fee. *** 29 year old healthy client rear-ended by a corporation's driver. Disc injury in neck. No Legal Fee.



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EXPLORING DTLV's Downtown Container Park

[by Chris Mason]

There is a new place to be in Las Vegas, and that place is the fabulous Downtown Container Park (DCP). So there you go, if you didn't know, now you know.

Need To Know

I'll get into some of the cool details in a bit but first let's get down to the need-to-know information so you know what you're doing when you get there. Retail shops are open Monday-Saturday 10am to 9pm and Sunday 10am to 8pm. The food and beverage locations are open Sunday-Thursday 11am to 11pm, Friday-Saturday 11am to 1am and just so you know, no one under 21 is allowed after 9pm. The DCP is located at 707 Fremont St. If you need to get in touch with them the main office can be reached at 702-637-4244. No pets are allowed at DCP but service animals are not a problem. Unfortunately, there is no on site parking at DCP but it is located right in the heart of Downtown with plenty of parking options.

Dining Options

I've worked out the perfect way to attack DCP and get the most out of your day. While it may be a bit ambitious it can be done and well worth every minute. Here we go: Start off with lunch at one of the several restaurants Big Ern's BBQ offers authentic BBQ in authentic Las Vegas fashion. From the meats and sides for the grown ups to the separate 10-and-under menu.

Celebrity Chef Kerry Simon also has his hand in another sure to

be hot spot eatery Pork & Beans, with a menu that includes artisanal sausage and bean dishes as well as other options. The kitchen is lead by Chef Nona Shivley so I encourage you all, when at DCP, make sure to indulge with some beans and a beer at this fresh new location.

For all of you health nuts, don't think I left you out. I'd also like to mention the new gourmet vegan and raw food eatery Simply Pure. I can't personally speak to the experience of Simply Pure because I am fueled by a diet of red meat, chicken, fish and vodka. However, I have it on good authority that Chef Stacey Dougan's vegan spot uses only the freshest ingredients, tastes pretty good and will probably help one live a healthier, longer life than my diet which could kill me any day (and just might). There are also other options for different appetites as well not to mention you're still in the heart of Downtown Las Vegas and are surrounded with countless options.

SHOP!

There are more than 20 retail shops and specialty boutiques, as well as some pretty cool art galleries. Not taking anything away from big name retailers, but you won't find an Abercrombie & Fitch

or an H&M at DCP. This place is loaded with eclectic, creative and unique places to spend your day browsing.

I'll start with 702DTLV. Self-proclaimed as "a unique boutique for a unique city" they offer apparel, decor, bags, accessories, jewelry, and much more. Definitely a spot you must check out while here.

Want to grab a quick snack while you're out and about? Slide by CUPKATES. Cupcakes, cake pops, cookies, and tons of other sweet treats that you can nibble on as you continue to roam on your journey around DCP.

Unique Art Galleries & Other Fun Things to Do

Black Bird Gallery is the new location from award-winning studios and features some of Las Vegas' best emerging artists.

There are several galleries that you should be certain not to miss, but Downtown Container Park is a work of art in itself. Truly one of the most unique and creative architectural creations that I have ever seen, the shops and restaurants inside literally resemble real life containers.

Want to have another kind of fun? One word: Treehouse. The Treehouse is DCP's one-of-a-kind interactive play area for children but adults can enjoy some of the

cool features as well. Things like the 33-foot tall slide, NEOS place system, a wet zone and more.

When the Sun Goes Down

Is everybody getting an idea of how cool DCP is? Local Las Vegas business owner Daniel Bakley describes DCP as "as a good date night type place. Lots to drink and eat and they usually have live music and DJs late on weekends."

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BOTTOMS UP: The Blind Pig



In March, Social Tuesdays concluded its first month at The Blind Pig. Located in the retail space at Panorama Towers, just west of City Center, The Blind Pig offers a great selection of fresh juices, an incredible menu for any appetite, and a full bar. This month we explore three signature cocktails.

The Blind Pig

The namesake cocktail combines Hangar One Raspberry vodka, Grand Marnier, fresh lime juice and Angostura and Angostura orange bitters to create a sweet and tart libation that bites the tip of your tongue and evens out as it crosses your palette. The bright pink liquid is garnished with a house made raspberry puree gel. The drink is reminiscent of a Pegu Club Cocktail replacing the traditional gin base with vodka to soften the drink.

Senior Pooh Bear

A margarita has never been so smooth. Davalos Añejo Tequila not only takes on the sweetness of agave and the sour of lime juice, but the Barenjager Honey liqueur and a honey powder rim adds an

unconventional twist to a more traditional margarita and a sweet follow through that turns out the flavor bouquet.

Cloudy Skys

I'm always one to try a more savory cocktail. The mixologists in town have found some very creative ways to deviate from the common mixers. The Cloudy Sky definitely falls into the savory category. From the moment the glass approaches your lips the aroma from the rosemary sprig garnish lures you in. The lavender bitters seal the deal and you know this is going to be a different kind of drink. This fusion of Bols Genever, maraschino, and creme de yvette capped with an egg whites foam can be harsh on its own—any one of the appetizers on the menu will pair nicely.

I sampled the poutine and the meatballs, but the crispy pork nuggets are a new indulgence. The sriracha aioli dipping sauce smooths out the flavor of the sweet chili oil without the fire one normally associates with sriracha (and complements the Cloudy Skys quite well. ■



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EATING OUT

[by Michael Barbieri]
myvegasonsession.com

@POSTRIO

A VENETIAN OUTDOOR CAFE

My friend and I are having dinner at a charming outdoor cafe. Beyond the barriers that enclose us, are high-end boutiques, second-story windows glowing with a homey warmth, and a gaggle of street performers. The sky above us is blue, with a few fluffy clouds...that never move. They're painted on the ceiling, as is the brilliant blue sky. The storefronts are real, but the apartments above are mere scenery, like a movie set. Our outdoor cafe is actually indoors; part of the replica of the Piazza San Marco, in the Canal Shoppes at the Venetian Resort and Casino. Welcome to Postrio!

Postrio is Wolfgang Puck's take on contemporary American bar and grill fare, but with a distinctly Italian flare. Here, dishes like Maine Diver Scallops live side by side on the menu with Spaghetti and Meatballs, and Chef Puck's signature hand crafted pizzas. Two dining areas make up the space at Postrio - the "indoor" dining room, for a quieter, more intimate experience, and the "outdoor" cafe, perfect for a lively meal and people watching. Large standing lamps are positioned throughout the space, so that even when night "falls", which it does rather quickly, (No, seriously! They flip a switch when the street performers begin their show!) the light is pleasant, soft, but never too dim.

Amused by the surreal indoor/

outdoor aspect of Postrio, we perused the menu, enjoying the bread basket, which included an excellent rosemary focaccia. With so many tempting choices, we had trouble deciding on main courses, but in the meantime, decided to split several appetizers.

Our meal began with an intriguing amuse-bouche - shots of the Spring Garlic Soup. Served in espresso cups, this verdant soup had a lovely, subtle garlic flavor, tempered by chives, bits of lobster, and Ligurian olive oil. A tiny bit of preserved lemon added a contrasting pop of flavor. Also available as an appetizer, it was light but very comforting, as any good soup should be.

We sampled the Beef Carpaccio - raw, thinly sliced beef tenderloin,



Photography by Greg Gorman

pounded flat and served with a Dijon aioli, dried olive powder, micro-arugula, lemon, and a hint of olive oil. The beef was gorgeous, with a buttery texture brought out by the oil and lemon, and while I felt it could use just a hint more acid, my friend felt it was absolutely perfect as served. Next came the Crispy Calamari and Shrimp "Fritto Misto" - a generous helping of seafood, coated in an addictive, crunchy batter and fried to a golden, non-greasy crispiness. Complementing the firm, delicious shrimp and the nicely chewy squid, were a Tomato Basil Garlic sauce and a spectacular Herb Gremolata, made with olive oil, parsley, rosemary, orange zest and garlic. If you're a fan of fried calamari, this is definitely a dish to try!

I was anxious to try one of Postrio's pasta dishes, so we settled on the Porcini Mushroom Agnolotti - tender little pasta pillows stuffed with a combination of porcini mushroom, marscarpone, and Parmesan cheese.

With a creamy, delectable sauce made from sautéed mushrooms, mushroom stock, chicken stock and butter, the dish wasn't heavy, and I enjoyed the interplay between the earthiness of the mushrooms and the sweetness of the cheeses. A half-portion of this wasn't nearly enough!

For our main courses, we each went our own way. My friend ordered the Pork Schnitzel, a nod to Chef Puck's Austrian heritage. A goodly cut of boneless pork, thinned, tenderized, then dredged in flour, dipped in egg, coated with bread crumbs, deftly fried, and served with Austrian potatoes - boiled, buttered and tossed with parsley, as well as a marinated cucumber salad. While the sides here were perhaps a little simpler than expected, the schnitzel itself was crispy on the outside and wonderfully moist inside - a flavorful education in international cuisine! I chose the Grilled

Scottish Salmon "Cioppino" - a beautiful piece of mesquite grilled salmon, surrounded by P.E.I. mussels, Manila clams, shrimp, and tender calamari, all swimming in a delicious tomato-saffron broth. A toast point brushed with an equally yummy saffron aioli, was an extra treat. The salmon alone would've made an excellent main course, but the seafood stew upon which it was served, made it a hearty, satisfying meal!

As a way of prepping for the meal this evening, neither of us had eaten during the day, so we felt justified indulging in dessert. We might have gone a bit overboard, however. All in all, we sampled four different desserts: the Chocolate Layer Cake - layers of airy chocolate cake filled with a creamy, smooth milk chocolate pudding and served with a chocolate malt ice cream. Like an elegant version of a Blackout Cake, the pudding imparted a fabulous moistness to the cake, giving it a luscious mouth feel. I decided upon the Peanut Soufflé - a nearly weightless confection with the flavor of a peanut butter foam. Delicious, if maybe a bit too sweet for my palate. I also absolutely HAD to try the Chocolate Beignets - warm balls

of fried chocolate dough, like the best doughnut holes you've ever tried, only these were filled with molten chocolate and came with a sinful caramel dipping sauce. Sprinkled with powdered sugar, they were a chocoholic's dream! As if that weren't enough, the manager sent out an order of their Praline Bread Pudding, a delicious sticky mound of milk-soaked bread with candied nuts, pineapple, and rum ice cream. While the texture was less doughy than a traditional bread pudding, it was still irresistible!

When traveling in Italy, one of the highlights is finding that perfect little sidewalk cafe, where you can have a glass of wine and a wonderful meal after a long day of sightseeing. In Las Vegas, just head over to the Canal Shoppes and have Brunch, Lunch, or Dinner at Wolfgang Puck's Postrio - the outdoor cafe...that's indoors!

(A Side Note: As of this writing, Postrio is happy to welcome Mark Andelbradt as their new Chef de Cuisine. With training at the Italian Culinary Institute in Turin, Italy, and experience in kitchens worldwide, Postrio expects to see some exciting changes in the months to come!■



Photography by Jeff Green



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Olivia Newton-John: Down-to-Earth Diva

[by Randy Slovacek, The Randy Report]

Music and film icon Olivia Newton-John is set to join an elite list of long-term Las Vegas headliners as she begins her anxiously-awaited concert residency, titled "Summer Nights," beginning April 8 at the Flamingo Las Vegas.

"Summer Nights" will take fans on a journey through Olivia's extraordinary life and career. The show will feature many of her international hits including "Physical," "Xanadu," "Magic," "Have You Never Been Mellow," "Let Me Be There," "If You Love Me Let Me Know" and "I Honestly Love You," as well songs from Grease, "Hopelessly Devoted to You," "You're The One That I Want," and of course, "Summer Nights." In addition, Olivia plans to include songs from her recent Billboard hit album Grace and Gratitude.

"I am thrilled to be able to call Las Vegas home for a while," says Olivia. "I have performed here many times

through the years and have had nothing but wonderful memories, and I look forward to even more fun at the Flamingo."

While some artists look for the largest possible venues to play, Olivia says the intimacy of the Donny & Marie Showroom at the Flamingo was just what she was looking for in Las Vegas. "I was really taken by the feeling in the room," Newton-John said. "It's a very cozy room, and it's kind of like old Las Vegas. It had booths still, which is really rare in showrooms anymore, and I like that. I like the atmosphere."

With more than 100 million albums sold, Olivia's successes include four Grammys, numerous Country Music, American Music, Billboard and People's Choice Awards, an Emmy Award, ten #1 hits and more than 15 top 10 singles. In 1978, her co-starring role with John Travolta in Grease catapulted Olivia into super-stardom and to date remains

the most successful movie musical of all time. She received critical acclaim in recent years guest starring on the hit TV series "Glee" recreating her classic video "Physical" with Jane Lynch and, starring as Bitsy Mae Harling, a lesbian bar singer in both the cult film and LOGO TV series, "Sordid Lives."

In addition to her many artistic projects, this "down-to-earth diva" has spent years focusing on issues close to her heart including the environment, health and wellness. In 2005, Olivia opened the Gaia Retreat and Spa in Byron Bay, New South Wales. The luxurious boutique retreat (often referred described as "barefoot Armani") has won numerous international awards for its healthy approach to wellness and renewal. A long-time environmental advocate, Olivia and her husband John Easterling campaign tirelessly spreading the word about the importance of preserving the Rainforest, and the health values

Photo: Denise Truscello

found in the botanicals of the Amazon.

Her personal triumph against cancer led her to announce her partnership with the Austin Health and the creation of the Olivia Newton-John Cancer and Wellness Centre (ONJCWC) in her hometown of Melbourne, Australia. After nearly ten years of fundraising close to \$200 million, the ONJCWC opened its doors in 2012.

And while the LGBTQ community has long embraced Olivia, she's returned the love performing for several major gay pride events in Sydney, New York City, Los Angeles and Chicago. In addition, she was one of the first A-list celebrities to speak out in support of marriage equality in Australia. In January 2012, Olivia famously said, "With respect to marriage equality, I believe that no one has the right to judge and deny couples who love each other the ability to make a marriage commitment. Love is love."

QVegas recently spoke with Olivia one-on-one to find out what she has in store for Las Vegas audiences this summer.

QVegas - What made you decide to take on the long-term run at The Flamingo Las Vegas?

Olivia Newton-John - I'd been asked to do it before, and I'd postponed it because of my sister. (Newton-John's sister, Rona Newton-John, passed away last year from an aggressive form of brain cancer). There was a time when I wasn't sure if I could sing again or would sing again. But as time went on, I felt that she would not have wanted me to give up. I've always wanted to do a residency, and it's a wonderful opportunity. I can be in one place, and have my dog and have a fairly normal life (laughs). I'm excited about it.

Q - Your music spans the gamut from pop, country, healing music, rock, movies... Will your fans get to hear ALL of that?

ONJ - Thank you for that. I'll do a bit of everything. The "Grease" songs; the "Xanadu" songs; the country songs; I feel very fortunate that I have that great amount of music to call on.

Q - Your music has always had a very positive message. What do you take into consideration when choosing songs to sing?

ONJ - The lyrics to me are incredibly important. Very much so. "Not



Photo: Chad Allen Smith

Gonna Give In To It" is a song I wrote after I had breast cancer. So, that was somewhat of a mantra to myself. And John Farrar wrote "Don't Stop Believin'" which is a beautiful lyric. He always wrote such beautiful lyrics. The song "Magic" is also very positive - "Nothing can stand in our way." Those kinds of lyrics are very important to me. I don't like to sing negative songs.

Q - Las Vegas has seen many LGBTQ icons do well with concert residencies: Elton, Cher, Bette, Celine, and now, Olivia. (To qualify as "icon," clearly you must be recognizable by one name...). I know the sign says "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas!" but why do you think LGBTQ favorites enjoy such huge success on the Strip?

ONJ - (laughing) I never really thought of it that way! I think the gay community are incredibly loyal fans. Indeed, they have been throughout my career. And I really appreciate that. Because they really are loyal to the artists that they love.

Q - You were one of the very first major celebrities to speak out in support of marriage equality in Australia. Are you surprised at the

momentum the marriage equality movement has had in the past few years?

ONJ - I think it's FANTASTIC. Not surprised, because I think we're all becoming more educated and more aware. Just about every family has a gay member, I think. It used to be swept under the carpet, but not anymore. I think that as the awareness grows and the love grows, it will be accepted more and more. We're very lucky that we have this in the free world. There are those in other countries who can't be who they are.

Q - Have you ever been concerned about sharing your opinion about important issues like marriage equality, breast cancer awareness or the environment?

ONJ - I might be a little nervous but it doesn't stop me if it's correct. I'm not really a political person; I don't affiliate myself with any particular party. But I will get involved with an issue if I feel it's the right thing to do. I've spoken out in Australia about 'fracking' where they are breaking open the ground to release natural gas which really endangers the water supply. It was



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a kind of dangerous area to tread in, but I knew that it was incredibly important to make people aware because I don't think enough people knew about it. That was important to me. I canceled a tour of Japan many years ago because of the killing of whales and dolphins in tuna nets, and I can't believe it's still happening. So, there are a lot of things that I feel passionately about. Sometimes I'm a little nervous about it but that doesn't stop me - you have to have the courage of your convictions.

Q - A portion of every ticket sold to your concerts in Las Vegas will benefit the Olivia Newton-John Cancer and Wellness Centre in Australia. I've never heard of another Las Vegas headliner making their charity such a prominent part of their run in Vegas.

ONJ - Thank you, I'm thrilled about it.

Q - And actually, although you have helped raise over \$200 million to open the ONJCWC, the fundraising doesn't stop now, does it?

ONJ - No. In fact, in Australia it's national healthcare which pays for the hospital. But the Wellness Centre programs have to be paid for through public fundraising, which we've managed to do until now. And going forward we're going to have to continue to do that. So that is MY job, and I'm really thrilled that really helps with these programs.

Q - So everyone who comes to see ONJ in Las Vegas will be contributing to the ONJCWC!

ONJ - Yes! And that's a lovely way of putting it! We should put that in all the press materials! We should say "Thank you all for coming and contributing!"

Q - What is your favorite part of the ONJCWC?

ONJ - Well, it's the Wellness Centre. It's made from an old church and an old hall that used to treat people with Tuberculosis. Of course, TB is something that they have under control, and I believe that my hospital will eventually be all a wellness center and cancer will all be a thing of the past like TB is. That's my vision and that's my dream.

Randy Slovacek is the author of The Randy Report, covering entertainment & political news of interest to the LGBT community. Follow him at www.therandyreport.com

Q - Fans are always looking for new music from you. Anything on the horizon?

ONJ - I have been working on some songs the past six months. It could be an album but I don't have anything set in stone yet.

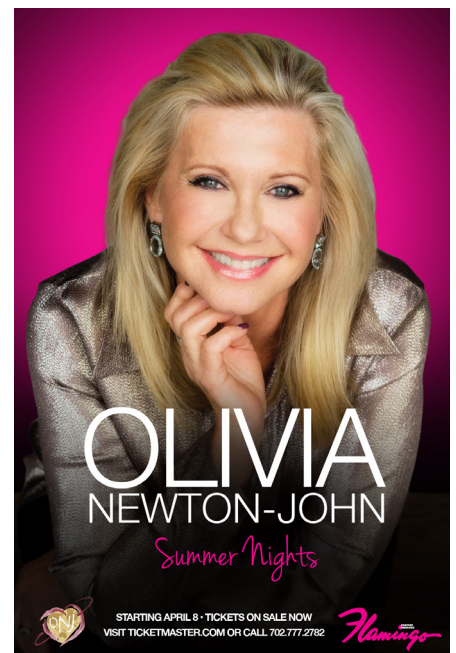
Q - What shows or concerts have you seen in the City of Entertainment recently that you've really enjoyed?

ONJ - Well, I LOVED Donny & Marie! Great show and I thought they were amazing! I recently saw Pink, who I think is spectacular! And all the Cirque shows - I'm a sucker for the Cirque shows! So brilliant - I love them. I love the music, the acrobatics, the creativity. They're all so amazing.

Speaking of creativity, Olivia didn't spill too many details for "Summer Nights," but she did share that in addition to new video and lighting elements, she plans to rehearse several additional songs to have ready for quick changes to the set list, should she feel like shaking things up some nights. It's possible each night could be a different show unto itself.

And maybe some famous friends might show up? There's always her most famous duet partner, Grease co-star John Travolta?

"I don't even know if John knows I'm doing the show, but if he does come, yes, I'll try to get him up there [for a duet]! I hope he comes at least once. That would be wonderful!" Olivia said about JT. ■



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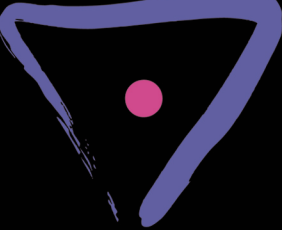
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Long Beach

May 17 & 18

'Reflections of Pride' is this year's 2014 Long Beach Lesbian & Gay Pride Celebration. This two day celebrity-filled festival is held annually in the heart of downtown Long Beach, California. More information www.longbeachpride.org

Los Angeles

June 6-8

Christopher Street West presents LA PRIDE: The TLGB Celebration. Located in the West Hollywood Park the largest gathering of the TLGB community in Southern California will come together to enjoy live entertainment, all new dance venues, numerous exhibitors, food and drink vendors and thousands of vibrant members of the TLGB community.

Denver

June 21 & 22

Denver PrideFest takes place in downtown Civic Center Park featuring the CoorsLight PrideFest Parade, the Smirnoff DanceWorld, a Latin Stage with cultural programming, and the Center Stage with live entertainment. More information www.glbtcOLORADO.org

San Francisco

June 28 & 29

Marking its 44th anniversary, San Francisco Pride Celebration and Parade will host its two-day celebration in the Civic Center Plaza in downtown San Francisco. The Parade, which takes place the Sunday morning of the event, kicks off from Beale Street along Market and ends at Market and 8th st in the heart of downtown San Francisco. More information www.sfpride.org

San Diego

July 19 & 20

Located in historic Balboa Park, this two day Pride Festival has become the premier PRIDE event in California. San Diego's famous cultural festival welcomes everyone with an open heart and mind to this Smoke-free Zone for multiple stages of entertainment, more than 200 musicians, bands comedy and dance performers and much more!. More information www.sdpride.org

Las Vegas

September 5 & 6

Join the celebration of diversity and PRIDE in the Las Vegas LGBT community with events including the annual Las Vegas PRIDE Night Parade & Festival. More information www.lasvegaspride.org

Palm Springs

November 7-9

"I am Pride: Stonewall 45" is the theme for the annual Palm Springs Pride Celebration. The two-prong theme was selected to observe the 45th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots and reflect on the impact the fight for equality is having on the LGBT community around the world. More information www.pspride.org



Kristine W. Gets A Little Closer Pop Diva To Perform at Revo Sundays May 4

[by Mark Dawson]

"*So Close To Me* is a celebration of the magic of spending time with loved ones," explains Vegas' leading party diva Kristine W about the next single off her *New and Number Ones* record. She will perform the song, along with several other dance floor hits from the album, May 4 at Revo Sundays.

Kristine hopes *So Close To Me* will serve as a reminder to club fans that no matter how many electronic gadgets are invented, there is no stronger connection than real human contact. "People need to turn off their devices," she says. "Real face-to-face quality time with the people you love is key to a happy life."

She's not only referring to the people we love romantically. "Family and co-workers count too," she clarifies.

That's why she chose to include her back-up dancers in the song's music video. "We've been working together for years, traveling the world, performing songs like *Land of the Living*, *One More Try*, *Stronger* and *Feel What You Want* together. It felt right to include them in the video."

"My dancers are my support system on the road," she continues. "We laugh, cry, share ideas... We appreciate the special time we get to spend with one another on the tour bus. Sure, it can be tight at times but it's allowed us to build such a wonderfully unique and close bond and I wouldn't change it for anything."

Are people out of control with technology?

Kristine W: I think we all rely too much on our gadgets. Phones and computers have become a safety glass separating real life from the cyber world we create for ourselves. We are losing our ability to truly connect with one another.

Do you monitor the amount of time you spend online?

I have the ringer on my phone set to off quite a bit. That way, I can focus on what I'm doing at the moment or really listen to that person who needs me to be totally present.

What one technology could you not live without?

I Skype a lot, especially for business. It's useful for speaking with producers and remixers in other countries. It has saved me a lot of time I would have spent traveling.

So you're not anti-technology?

Not at all. Technology is an amazing! It's only when we overuse and abuse it that it becomes harmful. We shouldn't substitute technology for real life connection.

How do you get away from the technology?

I hang with my kids and friends. I ride my horses. I write songs and play my instrument. I love to hike, power walk and go to fitness classes and, of course, church. There are lots to do!

You also spend a lot of time on the road. Does it get lonely?

Not at all. Every show is a creative adventure. I've been traveling with the same dancers and musicians for almost a decade. They're my other family.

Do you fight like family?

We don't argue. That would be counterproductive in a creative environment. But we have had strong conflicting opinions about choreography and show ideas. We are all secure enough in our relationship to be honest about how we feel. In the end, the best ideas win, even if they aren't mine. (Laughs)



Whose idea was it to release so many remixes of *So Close To Me*?

We were only going to release the two CDs of remixes but as the single got more popular, we received more offers from DJs and producers. Soon, we had over 30 remixes and I was blown away by how great they all were! I wanted them to be available to the fans. I couldn't fit them all on two CDs so we had to make a third.

Releasing three albums has to be expensive.

Oh yes. It's a labor of love really because artists don't make much money selling physical CDs these days. You have to pay the graphic people, the mastering house, editors who make sure all the info is correct so we don't have to do a repressing. It's a lot but I do it for the collectors who prefer their CDs over digital mp3s. CDs are something tangible. Collectors enjoy the artwork and the overall

personalization of having a physical copy.

How did you pay for it?

We were out of money after the second remix album so the third is a literally a gift to fans from everyone on the New and Number One team. I really have to thank the tribe of talented remixers who agreed to make it happen with me.

Do you have a favorite remix?

I love them all. How could I not? They offer such a wide variety of sounds. It's truly amazing. But so is the team we have assembled for this project. Every day I count my blessings for the first class people in my life that I am lucky to have so close to me.

Kristine W performs Revo Sundays @ The Mirage (3400 Las Vegas Blvd. South Las Vegas) on Sunday, May 4. For more information, visit KristineW.com.

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8	9	10		12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

17

New HIV Infections in Clark County in February 2014

12

New AIDS cases in Clark County in February 2014

Since 1982, there have been 4,016 HIV cases and 6,205 AIDS cases recorded in Clark County.

QVegas is collaborating with local LGBT students in a long term HIV prevention campaign we call "What Day." Current infection rates in Clark County have reached about 1 diagnosis per day. Growth rates in the Las Vegas area have recently climbed at an alarming 25% rate since January 2013. QVegas is committed to this bold and aggressive campaign and will continue to run the campaign until infection rates decline. Get tested. Know your status. Know your partner's status. Use protection. Stay safe.

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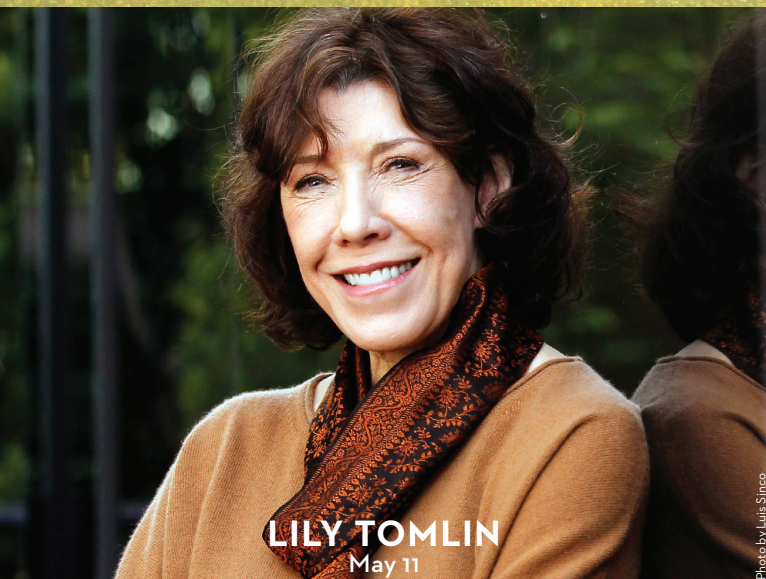
RENÉE FLEMING
"GUILTY PLEASURES"
May 1

Photo by Decca/Andrew Eccles



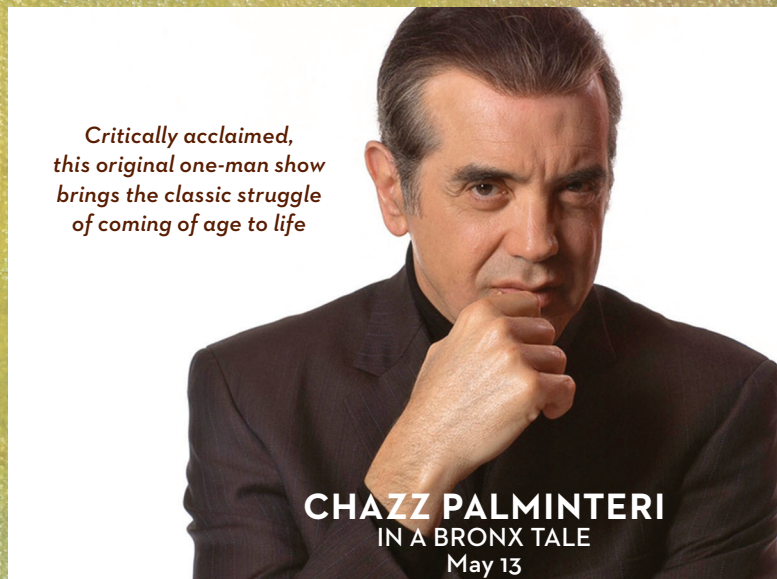
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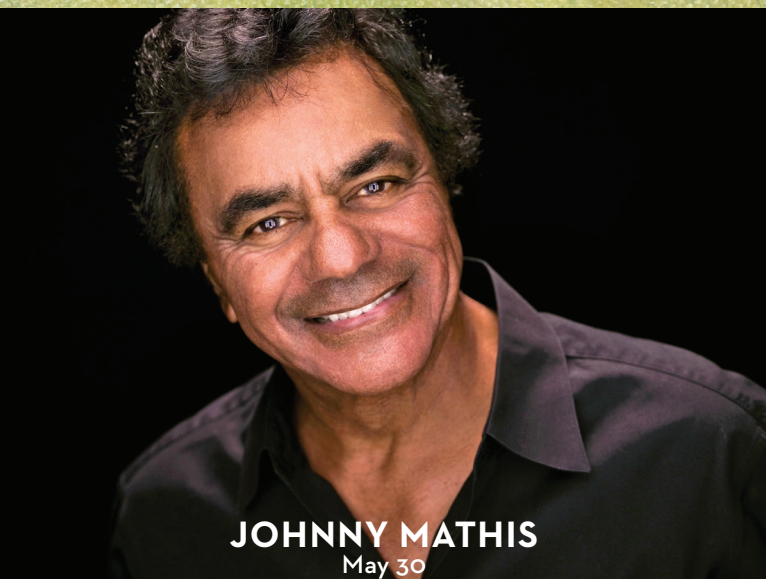
LILY TOMLIN
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Photo by Luis Sinco



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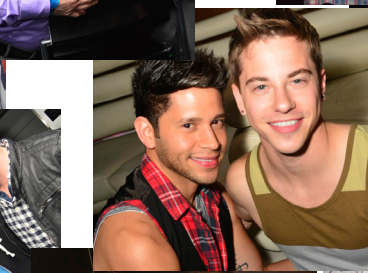
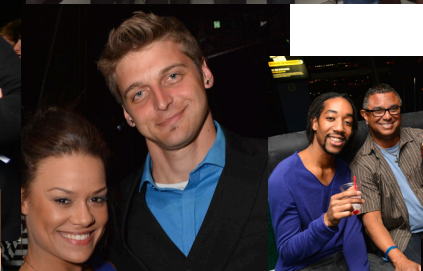
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VOLUNTEERING WITH HRC LAS VEGAS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

much more than just showing up to help. It is a wonderful group of like-minded people going out in the community to change the world. The opportunities that I have had have been remarkable.

Every third Thursday of the month, we descend on a new venue, typically one well-suited for drinks and appetizers and enjoy mingling and socializing with friends and fellow volunteers. We also see shows occasionally, which adds an entertaining twist to the 3rd Thursday event. This get-together is a wonderful opportunity to meet other HRC supporters and find out more about getting more involved. Usually, we enjoy appetizers and drink specials, and at times, a complimentary cocktail. Some of our past party spots have included Sugar Factory, Poppy Den, the Rock of Ages show, and, most recently, the new Toscano Italian Steakhouse.

We also throw volunteer appreciation parties. This month, we are having a barbeque and pool party for some of the wonderful volunteers who have signed on thus far to help with our annual HRC Gala on May 17th. Held at the Wynn Resort, the gala is our largest fundraising of the year, and consists of a full evening of top-notch entertainment, dinner, drinks, and a silent auction chock-full of to-die-for travel packages, jewelry, gift certificates, art, shows, experiences, and other designer items. If you are interested in helping with the gala, please contact us at lvgalavolunteers@gmail.com.

Looking back at the last year, we have garnered so many victories in the area marriage equality, mainstream social acceptance, and employment non-discrimination protections. The LGBTQ equality movement has undoubtedly experienced so many wins because of the tireless work volunteers have all been doing in the form of lobbying, petitioning, rallying, and speaking out for our rights. While there are so many activities that are absolutely essential to the movement's success, so,



too, is the day-to-day interaction that the majority have with representatives of our community (such as volunteers bearing the HRC shirts). We can change the hearts and minds of others and gain support for the LGBTQ movement by showing the people in our community that we are compassionate, hard-working, socially-conscious people just like them.

Volunteering with HRC is rewarding, exciting, and one of the best things I have ever done. I have had amazing experiences that I would not have been able to have any other way. I have met the most wonderful and inspiring people. People I know will be my lifelong friends, and likely would not have ever met under other circumstances. I can't imagine my life without HRC and volunteering in it. Not only is this the case for me, but most HRC volunteers share the same view, have had amazing experiences, and gained long-lasting friendships, all while making the world a better place to live in.

I am the HRC Las Vegas Volunteer Engagement Co-Chair, and I am a dedicated volunteer. I am a straight ally and an integral part of HRC and the realization of its vision of equality. Please join me. If you would like more information about volunteering for equality and for the betterment of our community, please contact me directly at cdigioia@gmail.com. ■

AIDS WALK LAS VEGAS 2014

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*Penn & Teller Challenge donations will be matched until the maximum amount is reached.

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Every donation counts, no matter the amount. Visit afanlv.org to register and discover great fundraising ideas to help get you started, or you may share your unique idea(s) to help motivate and inspire others to reach their goals. Aim high and be creative, passionate and persistent – your success may surprise you! Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to join you and/or sponsor you for AIDS Walk Las Vegas. Also, many companies will match your contributions through a Matching Gift Program. Check with your employer and encourage your donors/sponsors to do the same.

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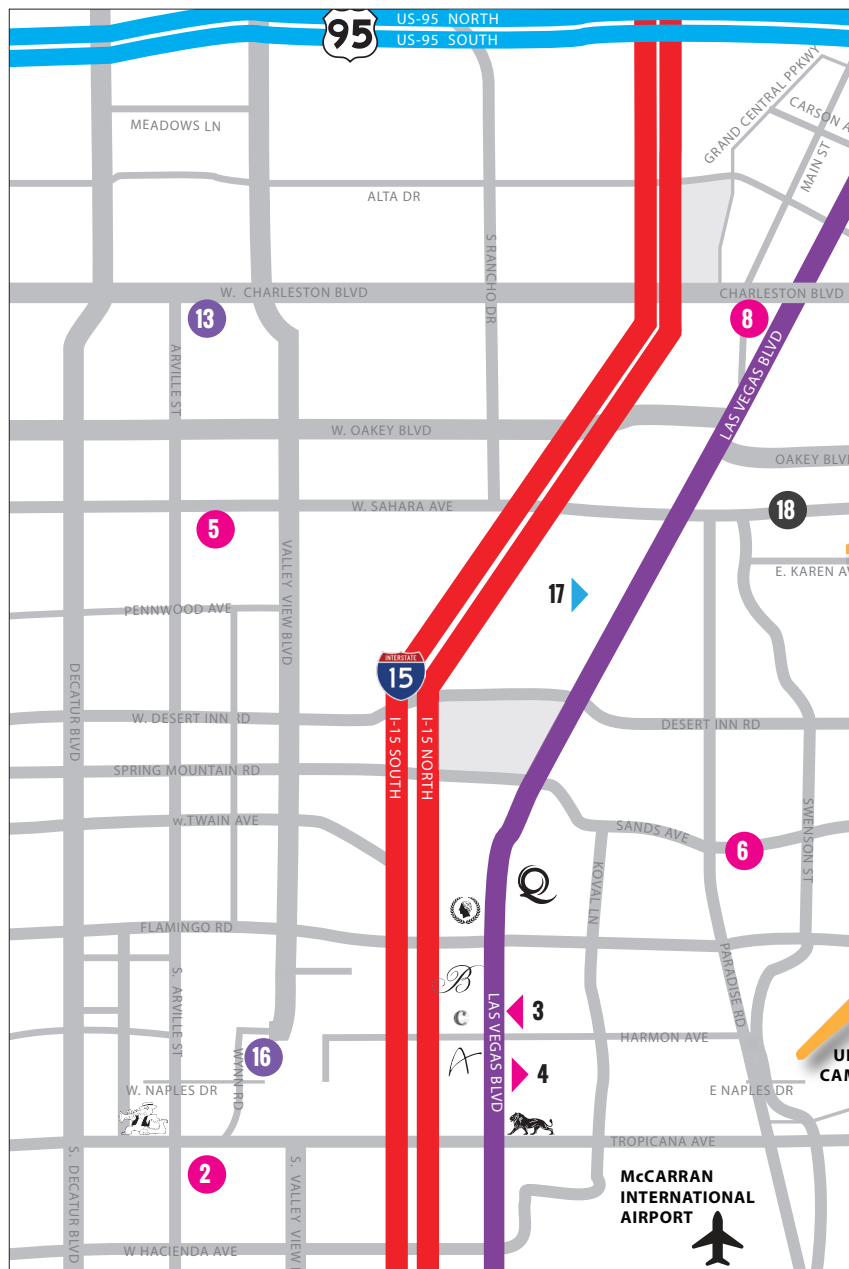
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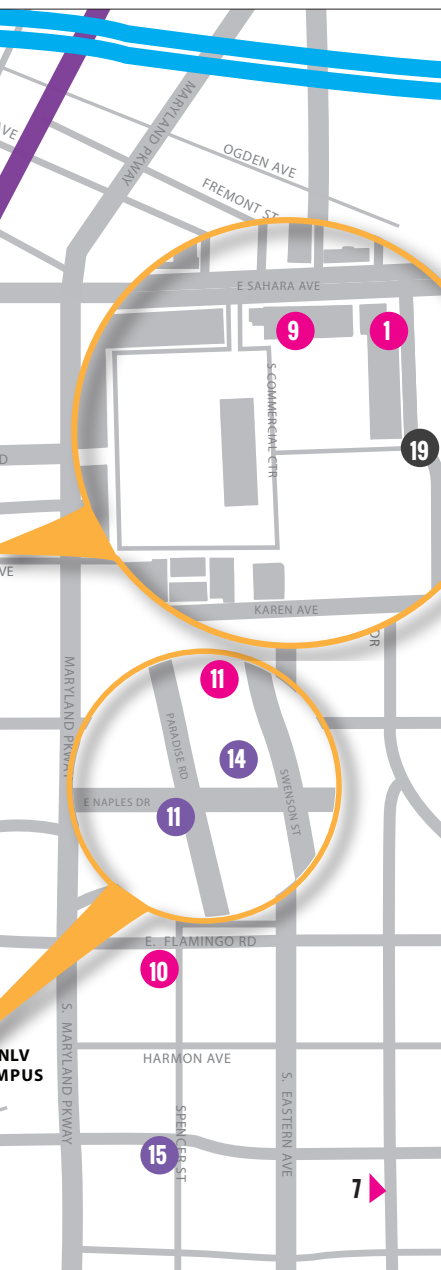
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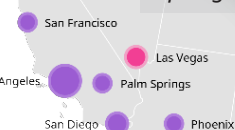
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last word!

CELEBRATING Q



By Russ White
PUBLISHER

This month we celebrate 10 years of QVegas Magazine. As part of a lineage of community publications since 1978, QVegas appeared in April 2004 as a high-gloss magazine replacing the newsprint version of The Las Vegas Bugle.

In 2004, the magazine carried the subhead "Gay & Lesbian Voice for 26 Years." Six years ago, the subhead changed to "The LGBT Voice Since 1978."

Earlier this month, I came across a posting on Facebook commenting on the "Q" in LGBTQ. As I contemplated a more educated response to the post, my thoughts went to all of the monikers we have been assigned or assumed since Stonewall.

In the beginning we were fags, dykes, and queers. I still have the lingering memories of the playground game of "Smear The Queer." I didn't know what a queer what back then, but somehow I was always "it."

Then we became homosexuals and had an agenda. After that we became gays and lesbians. The bi-sexual and transgender community then bolted on to create the GLBT initialism.

Our innate dyslexia kicked in a few years later and we transposed two letters to LGBT (okay, it was really all about ladies first, after all, it was the lesbian community that came to the bedsides to care for the thousands of dying gay AIDS patients in the 80's).

Over the past few years, the Q has emerged as a suffix to the community alphabet soup.

The Q is elusive. Is it Queer? Is it Queen? Is it Questioning? Maybe it's all of them. Does it matter? Since the Stonewall Riots, we have been a community built on inclusion. Would we really ever consider omitting the Q community because it's the newest letter of an abbreviation that's only been around since the '90s?

"The Q empowers an individual to choose not to choose a sexual identity or orientation."

Adding the Q is inclusive. And no, QVegas didn't petition to add the Q to LGBT. In fact, market research has shown LGBT is the predominantly accepted term among the community.

Mainstream media, corporations, governments, even politicians have all adopted the LGBT term. While there is still a segment of America that doesn't even know what LGBT means, its use eclipses GLBT and LGBTQ in use and acceptance.

Someone asked me recently why we don't use LGBTQ in the magazine. My response was simple, "The Q is at the beginning." A tongue-in-cheek response that deflected confrontation.

LGBTQ is gaining acceptance among the younger generation, though the meaning of Q varies. Sometimes "queer," other times "questioning," the Q empowers an individual to choose not to choose a sexual identity or orientation.

As I wrote this article, I can see that choosing to exclude the Q from LGBT in the magazine does nothing to unify the community.

So starting with our this issue, coincidentally on the 10th anniversary since the magazine was renamed QVegas in 2004, we have adopted LGBTQ as our official initialism for the community.

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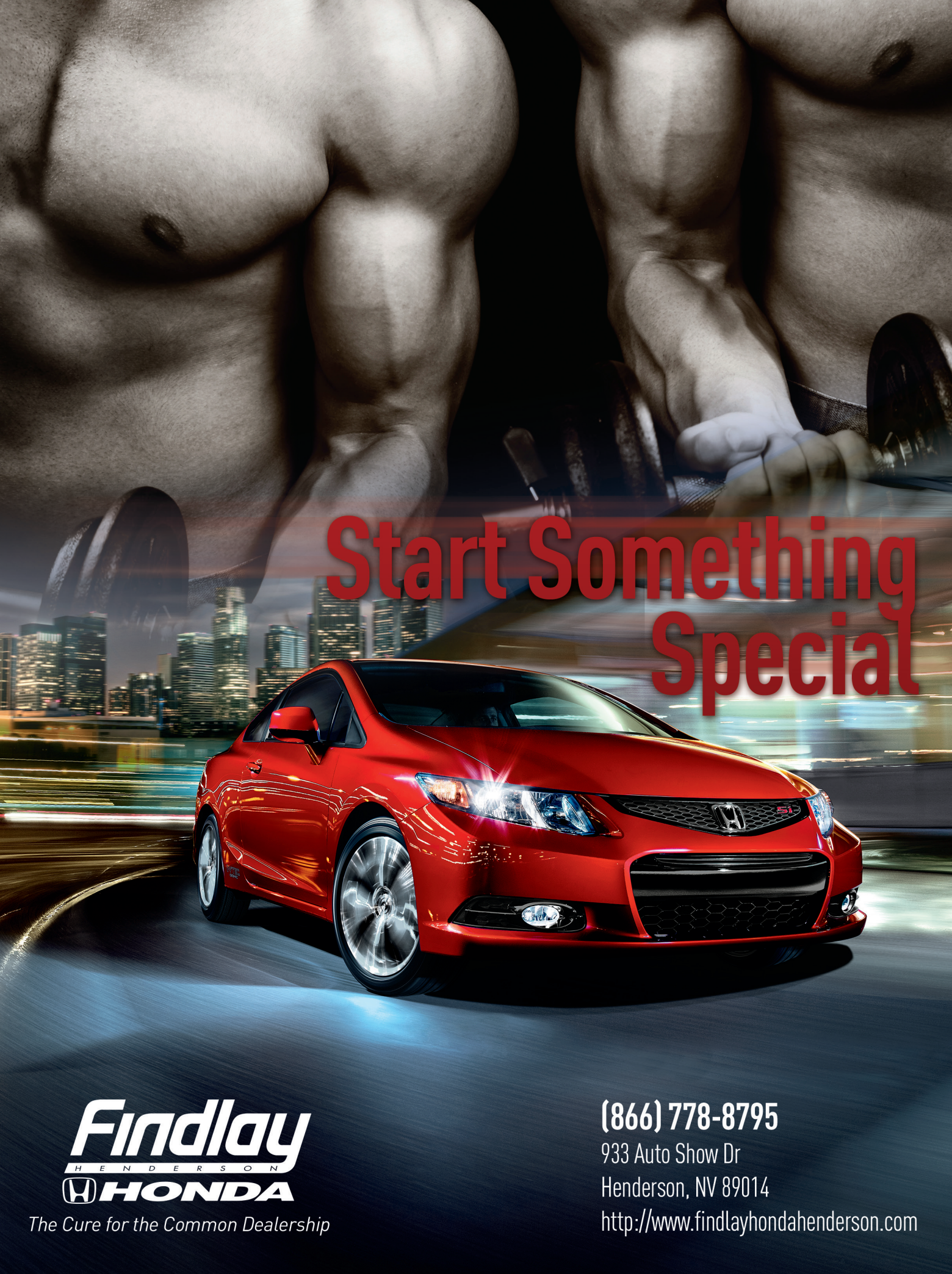
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